

***In the Claims:***

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.173(d), the below claims reflect changes relative to the original patent. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (Four Times Amended) A cap for use with a container neck having external means for detachably engaging said cap, said cap being shaped to fit over said neck and comprising  
a top and a [shirt] skirt depending from said top to fit outside said neck, internal means on said skirt to engage said external means to hold said cap on said neck, said top being formed with a central well having a side wall and a bottom, [a] at least one scoreline [extending along said side wall and across] positioned on said bottom, said side wall formed to cause [whereby] a probe having a blunt tip to engage said bottom at a center thereof as the probe is forced into said well, said at least one scoreline positioned such that the blunt tip splits said [well] bottom along said at least one scoreline as the blunt tip of the probe is forced against said center of said bottom so that said probe may enter said neck.

2. A cap according to claim 1 made of resilient material whereby said well is restored substantially to initial condi-

tion when said probe is withdrawn from said well to inhibit spillage from said container neck.

3. (Once Amended) A cap according to claim 1 which further comprises a gasket on the underside of said top to seal said cap to said [lip] neck.

4. A cap according to claim [4] 3 in which said gasket is of foam plastic.

5. (Once Amended) A cap according to claim 1 in which said cap is of a resilient plastic and said external means comprises a first screw thread and said internal means comprises a second screw thread whereby said second screw thread expands to slip over said first screw thread when said cap is pushed axially downward on said neck without relative rotation of said cap and said neck.

6. (Once Amended) A cap according to claim 5 for use with a container having first orientation means, said cap further comprising second orientation means [cooperable with said first orientation means] whereby when said cap is pushed axially

downward on said neck said first screw thread and said second screw thread are inter-engaged.

7. In combination a container neck and a cap according to claim 1 in which said external means comprises a crown bead and said internal means comprises a locking bead positioned to engage under said crown bead to prevent removal of said cap from said neck when said cap is intact.

8. (Once Amended) The combination of claim 7 which further comprises means for removing a portion of said [skirt containing said] locking bead to [prevent] allow removal of said cap from said neck.

9. A cap according to claim 1 in which said external means comprises a first screw thread and said internal means comprises a second screw thread.

10. A cap according to claim 9 wherein said neck has a lip, a cylindrical portion below said lip formed with said external first screw thread and a crown bead below said cylindrical portion, said first screw thread having [an] a thread end [formed as a ramp of reduced thickness],

said cap comprising a top and a skirt depending from  
said top, said skirt having a restricted diameter cylindrical  
upper stretch formed with said internal second screw  
thread shaped and positioned to mate with said first  
screw thread, an enlarged diameter stretch below said  
upper stretch for engaging said crown bead and an  
internal locking bead for engaging the underside of said  
crown bead, and at least one barrier extending down-  
ward from said second screw thread, said at least one  
barrier being horizontally aligned with said [ramp] thread end when  
said cap is installed on said neck, whereby turning said  
cap relative to said neck in an unwinding direction  
causes said cap skirt to expand outward and said second  
screw thread to disengage from said first screw thread.

11. A cap according to claim 10 which further comprises  
a plurality of downward extending second barriers angularly  
spaced apart [and] from said first-mentioned barrier and  
depending from said screw thread.

12. A cap according to claim [1] 10 in which said skirt extends  
below said enlarged diameter stretch to a bottom edge, a tear

tab extending below said bottom edge and a tear line formed in said skirt adjacent said tear tab extending up from said bottom edge to said upper stretch.

13. A cap according to claim 12 in which said tear line is substantially vertically disposed and which further comprises a second tear line approximately parallel to said first-mentioned tear line disposed on the side of said tear tab opposite said first mentioned tear line extending up from said bottom edge to said upper stretch.

14. A cap according to claim 12 which further comprises a plurality of angularly spaced apart guide ribs extending downward from said internal locking bead[, said guide ribs being triangular in vertical cross-section].

15. A cap according to claim 1 in which said side wall is conical.

16. A cap according to claim 15 in which said bottom is round.

17. A cap according to claim 16 in which said scoreline comprises a first stretch along said side wall, a second stretch across said bottom and a third stretch along said side wall, said stretches being joined end to end and lying in a common plane [substantially diametric relative to] containing the axis of said well.

18. (Once Amended) A cap according to claim [17] 1 which further comprises a short [external] rib on said bottom extending away from said scoreline whereby said probe when forced into said well first contacts said rib to initiate splitting said [well] bottom along said scoreline.

19. In combination, a container neck and a cap according to claim 1,  
said container neck having a lip, a cylindrical portion  
below said lip formed with said external first screw thread and a crown bead below said cylindrical portion,  
said first screw thread having an end formed as a ramp,  
said cap having at least one barrier extending substantially vertically downward relative to one of said screw threads into horizontal alignment with said ramp, said skirt being flexible, whereby turning said cap relative to said neck in an unwinding direction so long as said cap

is intact causes said cap to expand outward and said screw threads to disengage from each other, and means to tear a portion of said skirt to release said cap from said neck.

20. The combination of claim 19 in which said at least one barrier is on said cap and extends downwardly from approximately 0° of angle of said second screw thread to approximately the elevation of 360° of angle of said second screw thread.

21. The combination according to claim 19 in which said cap is of resilient material whereby said well is restored substantially to initial condition when said probe is withdrawn from said well.

22. (Twice Amended) The combination of claim 19 in which said side [wail] wall is conical.

23. The combination of claim 22 in which said bottom is round.

24. (Once Amended) The combination of claim 23 in which said scoreline comprises a first stretch along said wall, a second stretch across said bottom and a third stretch along said side wall, said stretches forming a substantially continuous line in a plane [substantially diametric relative to] containing the axis of said well.

25. (Once Amended) The combination according to claim 24 which further comprises a short [external] rib on said bottom extending away from said second stretch.

26. (Once Amended) In combination, a hollow, apertured probe having a blunt tip, a cap, a container having a neck having external means for detachably engaging said cap, said cap being shaped to fit over said neck and comprising a top and a skirt depending from said top  
internal means on said skirt to engage said  
external means to hold said cap on said neck, said top  
being formed with a central wall having a side wall and  
a bottom, at least one scoreline positioned on said bottom,  
said blunt tip engagable with said bottom to split said scoreline so  
said probe may enter said container.



27. The combination of claim 26 in which said probe  
seals against said well.

28. The combination of claim 27 wherein said probe seals against said sidewall.